OMB No. 10024-0018

RECEIVED

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

JAN 27 1994

NATIONAL REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property
historic name <u>Flizabeth City State Teachers College Historic District</u>
State Colored Normal School at Elizabeth City other names/site number <u>Elizabeth City State University</u>
2. Location
street & number Roughly bounded by Parkview and Hollowell drives \(\subseteq \frac{N}{\text{A}} \) for publication
city or town <u>Elizabeth City</u> \(\square\) vicinity
state North Carolina code NC county Pasquotank code 139 zip code 27909
3. State/Federal Agency Certification
As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.) Signature of certifying official/Title
State of Federal agency and bureau
In my opinion, the property \square meets \square does not meet the National Register criteria. (\square See continuation sheet for additional comments.)
Signature of certifying official/Title Date
State or Federal agency and bureau
4. National Park Service Certification
I hereby certify that the property is: O Signature of the Keeper Date of Action
entered in the National Register. See continuation sheet. Mac M, May 2/28/94
☐ determined eligible for the National Register ☐ See continuation sheet.
determined not eligible for the National Register.
removed from the National Register.
other. (explain:)

Materials

walls

(Enter categories from instructions)

roof <u>slate</u>

stone

foundation brick

other <u>roof: asphalt</u>

brick

wood

Narrative Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Colonial Revival

Bungalow/Craftsman

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

0 61	atement of Significance			
		'Aveca of Cinnificance		
(Mark	cable National Register Criteria "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property cional Register listing.)	Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)		
		Education		
□ x A	Property is associated with events that have made	Black Ethnic Heritage		
	a significant contribution to the broad patterns of	Architecture		
	our history.			
□в	Property is associated with the lives of persons			
	significant in our past.			
	·			
⊥x C	Property embodies the distinctive characteristics			
	of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses			
	high artistic values, or represents a significant and			
	distinguishable entity whose components lack	Period of Significance		
	individual distinction.	1921-1942		
	Decree of the establishment of the Physics of the			
ט ט	Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.			
Criter	ia Considerations	Significant Dates		
(Mark	"x" in all the boxes that apply.)			
Drope	erty is:	1921		
riope	ity is.	1925		
\Box A	owned by a religious institution or used for	1937		
	religious purposes.			
	removed from its original location. a birthplace or grave.	Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)		
LX D		_ N / A		
□ c		_N/-A		
		Cultural Affiliation		
∐ D	a cemetery.	_ N / A		
ПЕ	a reconstructed building, object, or structure.			
□F	a commemorative property.			
	loss than 50 years of ago or achieved significance	Architect/Builder		
□G	less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.			
	William the past of yours.	Maxwell, J. Allen, Jr.		
		Stephens and Stephens		
Narra (Explai	tive Statement of Significance n the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)			
9. Ma	ajor Bibliographical References			
Bibilo (Cite th	graphy e books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one	e or more continuation sheets.)		
Previ	ous documentation on file (NPS):	Primary location of additional data:		
	preliminary determination of individual listing (36			
	CFR 67) has been requested	Other State agency		
	previously listed in the National Register	☐ Federal agency		
 previously determined eligible by the National Register 		☐ Local government ☑ University		
	designated a National Historic Landmark	☐ Other		
	recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey	Name of repository:		
	#	Elizabeth City State University		
	□ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #			

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner
(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name City of Elizabeth City, Hon. James A. Harrington, Mayor

street & number Post Office Box 347 telephone (919) 338-3981

city or town Elizabeth City state NC zip code 27907-0347

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget. Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number $\frac{7}{}$ Page $\frac{1}{}$

Elizabeth City State Teachers College Historic District Pasquotank County, NC

ELIZABETH CITY STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE HISTORIC DISTRICT

7. Narrative Description

The Elizabeth City State Teachers College Historic District consists of three adjoining campus areas totaling approximately nineteen acres (Exhibit A). The first of these sections, along Parkview Avenue, comprises the historic entrance to the campus and contains the oldest buildings--Lane Hall (2 on Exhibit A), Symera Hall (3), Moore Hall (4), and the former G. R. Little Library (5). These four brick buildings, arranged in a linear fashion, are one to three stories in height finished with elements of the Colonial Revival style. The second section, to the south of the first, is a large quadrangle (A) approximately 400 feet (north to south) by 660 feet (east to west). The north side of this quadrangle is bounded by the rear elevations of the buildings in the first section with both the E. A. Johnson Class-room Building (7) and the former Laundry Building/Telecommunications Building (6) projecting into the quadrangle behind Moore and Symera halls, respectively. On the south the quadrangle is bounded by Williams Hall (11), on the east by Bias Hall (8), and on the west by Butler Hall (9). Each of these three large brick buildings was built in the Colonial Revival style, and together they impart uniformity and architectural cohesiveness to the quadrangle. The third section of the district lies east of Hollowell Drive and consists of two separate frame buildings, the former Practice School (10) at the southeast corner of the district, and the former Principal's House (1), which is situated at the northeast corner of the district facing Parkview Drive. The entire district, with the exception of the Craftsman Bungalow style Practice School and the modern E. A. Johnson Classroom Building, display elements of the enduring Colonial Revival style.

The oldest buildings in the district are Lane (2) and Symera (3) halls. They were erected in 1910-1912 in preparation for the relocation of the institution, then known as the State Colored Normal School at Elizabeth City, from its earlier building at 708 Herrington Road. Lane Hall was the Recitation Hall and Chapel, and Symera Hall was the first dormitory (Exhibit B). Both buildings were remodeled after World War II to keep pace with the need for improved facilities. Though both structures are noncontributing, each is in keeping with the historic Colonial Revival style character of the district.

The campus underwent two major building campaigns before 1942. The first began in 1921 and within two years had resulted in the erection of the administration and classroom building that is now Moore Hall (4), the Principal's House (1), and a new Practice School (10) on a site east of the Principal's House (Exhibit C); the Practice School was moved to its present location in 1957. A continuation of this program in the middle of the same decade provided for the construction of the first section of Butler Hall (9). Each of these buildings, except for the frame Craftsman Bungalow style Practice School, are brick structures which continue the Colonial Revival style precedent established in 1910 and 1911 by Lane and Symera Halls.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

•		7	D	2
Saction	number	,	Page	_
OCCUOIL	HUHHDEL		I aye	

Elizabeth City State Teachers College Historic District Pasquotank County, NC

A second major building campaign began in the late 1930s, financed largely by the Public Works Administration. Two important buildings were erected in 1937-1939, the former G. R. Little Library (5) and Bias Hall (8). The construction of Bias Hall provided the third side of the emerging campus quadrangle, and the doubling in size of Butler Hall strengthened the quadrangle's form. However, the fourth side of the quadrangle was not defined until the erection in 1947 of Williams Hall. These buildings also were Colonial Revival in style.

The appearance of the historic campus is characterized by large brick Colonial Revival style buildings covered by slate roofs and having symmetrical plans and fenestration placement. Most of the buildings are finished with reserved classical ornamentation rendered primarily in wood (cornices and dormers), brick (quoins and soldier course lintels), and stone (columns, sills, lintels, water tables, keystones, and door and window surrounds). The repeated use of stone accents, particularly porch porticoes, lintels, and sill courses, heightens the relations of buildings to each other. Four of the five noncontributing resources are Colonial Revival in style and not intrusive to the unified character of the district.

As the institution grew after World War II, particularly after attaining university status in 1969, new construction took place south of the old campus, primarily because that was the location of available land (Exhibit E). While buildings erected since the 1950s remain predominately brick, designs have departed from the Colonial Revival tradition into modern forms. The fact that few of these new buildings bear stylistic or spatial relationships to each other, or to the campus as a whole, makes the architectural similarities and institutional feeling of the historic campus more pronounced and cohesive.

INVENTORY LIST

A. Quadrangle (Contributing site, 1920s)

This grassy 400-foot-by-660-foot rectangle is loosely defined on all four sides by large two- or three-story brick Colonial Revival style buildings. Sidewalks extend around the perimeter and lead to the buildings that define the quadrangle. Additional sidewalks traverse the interior of the quadrangle in a north-south direction, with a main axis leading from Williams Hall (11) northward to the area between Moore (4) and Symera (3) halls. Some of these walks may date from 1956, when the New Bern, North Carolina architectural firm of Stephens and Stephens drew plans for sidewalks and driveways on campus. Clumps of pine trees and individual hardwood trees are planted in the quadrangle in a pattern that does little to accentuate visual sightlines within or through the space.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number ____7 Page ____3

Elizabeth City State Teachers College Historic District Pasquotank County, NC

1. Principal's House (Contributing building, 1921-1923)

The construction of the Principal's House was part of the building program begun in 1921, and the two-story frame dwelling was completed by March 1923 when it is shown on the Sanborn map (Exhibit C). The formal Colonial Revival style house utilizes a boxy three-bay by three-bay double-pile form beneath a hip roof covered with asphalt shingles. Boxed eaves and interior and interior end brick chimneys complete the roofline. The house's reserved design focuses on the central bay, which has a trabeated entrance with sidelights sheltered by a shallow porch carried by Ionic columns; on the second story, a central window with transom and sidelights echoes the main entrance configuration. A large porch (now screened) is carried by Tuscan columns along the east elevation. The windows contain typically Colonial Revival six-over-one sash. The house is covered with vinyl siding. A chain link fence encloses most of the rear yard.

2. Lane Hall (Noncontributing building, 1910-1912, enlarged 1923-1931, renovated 1948, remodeled 1955)

The oldest building on campus, Lane Hall was begun in 1910 and completed in 1912. The earliest Sanborn map to show the new campus, the map of March 1914 (Exhibit B), shows the building consisting of a two-story transverse "Recitation Hall" with one-story "Chapel" comprising the rear tee. The Recitation Hall, as shown by a documentary photograph, was a large two-story Colonial Revival style brick structure sheltered beneath a hip roof that had shallow hip-roofed extensions flanking the central entrance; a broad Palladian window in the second story of the central bay was the focus of the design. This building was later named in honor of Mrs. Frances (Lane) Bias (1882-1943), the wife of John Henry Bias (1879-1939), the school's second president, who herself was a counselor in the dining hall and dormitories. Only the chapel survives of the original building, being the five-bay section just behind the modern front portico. This wing is erected in six-to-one bond brick with elongated window openings having stone sills and stone flat arch lintels with elevated keystone. The windows contain replacement eight-over-twelve sash and have overhead wood panels filling in the rest of the original window opening. In 1923 (Exhibit C) the entire building was used as a dormitory, and between 1923 and 1931 (Exhibit D) the building was lengthened with a one-story brick dining room that continued the form of the original tee and, behind that, a flat-roofed brick kitchen wing; a short wing was also added on the west connecting the dining room to the adjacent dormitory now known as Symera Hall (3). In 1948 the dining hall was completely renovated and three years later the kitchen was enlarged along the east. The front two-story portion of the building was damaged by a storm and removed before 1955, when a handsomely scaled and detailed one-story classical tetraprostyle facade, designed by architects Stephens and Stephens of New Bern, was added to the former chapel wing. The limestone portico displays Tuscan columns, classical entablature with triglyphs, and a front pediment enclosing a limestone carving of the university seal. This portico and seal are now often displayed as a

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____7 Page ____4

Elizabeth City State Teachers College Historic District Pasquotank County, NC

symbol of the university. Lane Hall was occupied by the campus dining hall until the construction of a new facility in the 1980s.

3. Symera Hall (Noncontributing building, 1911-1912; remodeled 1947-1951)

This three-story brick dormitory was erected in 1911-1912 as the first dormitory on the new campus, and was ready for occupancy in the Fall of 1912. It was later named in honor of Symera T. (Rayner) Moore (1860-1922), the wife of P. W. Moore, the school's first principal. During an expansion of the dining room in the rear of adjacent Lane Hall (2) between 1923 and 1931, a short wing was added to connect the two structures (Exhibits C and D). Although a 1947-1951 remodeling resulted in the replacement of the original hip roof with a parapet roof, and the replacement of twin double-tier wood entrance porches on the front with small metal porches, the overall character of the building remains that of a large collegiate dormitory erected in the Colonial Revival style. The facade of the rectangular eleven-bay by three-bay building is divided into a series of bays by subtle projections of the facade that are only one foot in depth. The windows contain replacement six-over-six sash windows. The stone accents that complete the building include sills, lintels, a stringcourse between the first and second stories, a continuous lintel above the third story, and a cap crowning the parapet. A brick soldier course also enlivens the parapet. Symera has been maintained as a dormitory since its construction.

4. Moore Hall (Contributing building, 1921-1923, enlarged 1939)

Moore Hall was built between 1921 and 1923 to serve the growing campus as an administrative, classroom, and auditorium facility. In 1927 it was rededicated in honor of Peter W. Moore (1859-1934), who served as principal of the State Colored Normal School at Elizabeth City from its opening in 1892 until his retirement in 1928. Used primarily as classrooms since ca. 1966, the two-story, U-shaped brick building is the largest classroom structure in the historic campus. The main building is covered by a gable roof that terminates at each end with pediments, while the rear ells of the "U" terminate with hip roofs; each wing was extended fifty feet to the rear in 1939. Crowning the building are a wooden classical cornice, a central cupola that contains the campus chimes, and small round-arched louvered vents placed along the edge of the roof. The center of the fifteen-bay facade contains a flat-roofed portico supported by pairs of stone Tuscan columns that are augmented by Tuscan pilasters. A classical entablature with undecorated circular medallions above each column completes the portico. Two entrances on each side elevation are covered by a flat molded hoods supported by scrolled consoles. The fenestration consists of recent replacement nine-over-six sash windows on the facade, and replacement nine-over-nine sash windows on the side elevations. These windows replace aluminum tilt-in windows that were added in the 1960s; the configuration of the original sash is not

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number ____7 Page ____5

Elizabeth City State Teachers College Historic District Pasquotank County, NC

known. Important Colonial Revival finishing elements include stone sills and brick soldier course lintels and frieze.

5. (former) G. R. Little Library, later, Thorpe Administration Building; now H. L. Trigg Building (Contributing building, 1937-1939; enlarged, 1959)

This one-story brick Colonial Revival style building was erected as part of the school's second building campaign in 1937-1939. It was named for George Roscoe Little, Sr. (1873-1954), an Elizabeth City insurance agent and realtor who served on the Board of Trustees from 1932 until 1954, for a number of years as chairman. The T-plan structure is sheltered beneath a slate-covered gable roof that ends with pediments covering blind wings of diminished height at each end. The focus of the eleven-bay facade is a pediment that shelters the three central bays and projects about five feet beyond the main structure. This projection, defined by four pilasters of smooth-faced brick laid in imitation of rustic stone, is finished with stucco in the tympanum and between the pilasters. The central double-door entrance of modern glass and aluminum is sheltered by an entablature frontispiece supported by attenuated engaged columns with Ionic capitals. The building's windows contain replacement twelve-over-twelve sash, stone sills, and brick jack arches with stone keystones. A molded and boxed cornice, stone water table, and decorative triangular and hexagonal windows complete the building. A one-story brick addition was built to enlarge the rear in 1957. Designed by the architectural firm of Stephens and Stephens in New Bern, the addition repeats the Colonial Revival detailing of the main block. With the construction in 1966 of a new G. R. Little Library on a site immediately west of the old library, the old structure was converted into administrative offices and named in 1971 to honor Dr. Marion Dennis Thorpe (1932-1983), the school's president/chancellor from 1968 to 1983. When a new Thorpe Administration Building was completed in 1987, the old library became offices, including those of the university's campus research and archives, and was renamed in 1992 in honor of Dr. Harold Leonard Trigg (1893-1978), the third president.

6. <u>former Laundry Building</u>, now <u>Telecommunications Building</u> (Noncontributing building, 1923-1931, remodeled 1989)

This one-story building was erected in six-to-one bond brick between 1923 and 1931 as the campus laundry. It remained largely unaltered during a succession of uses until it was thoroughly remodeled in 1989. At that time the three-bay by three-bay structure was given four small dormers on the front of the gable roof and a pedimented one-bay Colonial Revival porch with Tuscan columns and well-proportioned and detailed classical entablature.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

	7		6
Section number		Page	

Elizabeth City State Teachers College Historic District Pasquotank County, NC

7. E. A. Johnson Classroom Building (Noncontributing building, 1966)

Modern two-story rectangular brick building with stucco panels on the second story. Most of the perimeter of the second story projects about eight feet beyond the walls of the first story and is supported on concrete pillars. Known at first just as Classroom Building, in 1971 the building was named in honor of Evelyn Adelaide Johnson, the first chairman of the Department of Music and a faculty member since 1929 until her retirement in 1975. She was named professor emerita in 1977.

8. Bias Hall (Contributing building, 1937-1939)

Construction of Bias Hall began in December 1937 with dedication taking place in May 1939. Its site during the early 1930s was a strawberry field tended by college students. The building was named for John Henry Bias (d. 1939), the president of the school from 1928 until his death two months after the dedication of the dormitory later named in his memory. He was president of the school during its transition from a two-year normal school to a four-year teachers college in 1937, and at the time of a subsequent name change in March 1939 to Elizabeth City State Teachers College. Bias Hall is a large three-story brick dormitory finished in the Colonial Revival style. The building consists of a seven-bay central section and flanking four-bay wings that are slightly diminished in height: each end has a small one-bay wing containing a stairwell. The building is covered by slate gable roofs, and a trio of gable dormers with round-arched windows pierces the front and rear of the central block. End pediments, boxed cornices, and brick quoins further define the building. The focus is a two-story flat-roof portico that shelters the central five-bays. It is carried by monumental stone Tuscan columns assisted by wooden Ionic pilasters. The double-leaf entrance with replacement aluminum and glass doors is enframed by an impressive stone surround consisting of a crossetted architrave interrupted by a large central, fluted keystone. The keystone extends into a plain frieze topped by a curved broken pediment. Above, there is a tripartite window with six-over-six sash flanked by two-over-two sash, all double-hung. The other windows contain eight-over-eight sash with stone sills and brick soldier course lintels. Each stairwell contains a handsome window surmounted by a round fanlight with brick voussoirs and stone keystone. Overhead, in the third story, and also in the end pediments, are bull'seye windows with enclosed by brick voussoirs and accented by four stone keystones. A stone water table and a stone sill course on the third story unite and complete the building.

9. Butler Hall (Contributing building, ca. 1925, enlarged 1939)

The first section of Butler Hall was built between 1921 and 1926 as a dormitory and named for John Henry Manning Butler (d. 1944), a native of Elizabeth City who served as the school's first assistant

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

NPS Form 10-900-a

United States Department of the InteriorNational Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section	number	7	Page	7
360000 1	nunibei		1 age	

Elizabeth City State Teachers College Historic District Pasquotank County, NC

principal and later as professor at the North Carolina Agricultural and Mechanical College for the Colored Race at Greensboro (now N. C. Agricultural and Technical University). The large three-and-a-half-story Colonial Revival style dormitory is faced with six-to-one common bond brick. It consists of four nearly identical five-bay blocks; the two northern blocks are the original section, with the two southern blocks having been added in 1939. Butler Hall is covered by a gable roof with parapet ends and parapets between each block. The two end walls are blind. The roof of each block is punctuated on the front with three dormers containing round-arched windows framed by Doric pilasters. The rear of each block is four-bays wide with two dormers. The entrance to each block contains a modern aluminum and glass double-leaf door enframed by a broad stone architrave with crossettes; above is a simple stone entablature. All of the windows on front and rear contain paired six-over-six sash with stone sills, except for paired four-over-four sash windows in the stairwells above the entrances. Several other windows on the front have been partially or entirely closed with brick for bathrooms. Uniting the building and accentuating its twenty-bay width are a brick soldier course water table, a stone sill course on the third story, and a molded boxed wood cornice at the eaves. The building, always used as a dormitory, is presently vacant while awaiting eventual renovation.

10. Practice School (now housing R.O.T.C. operations, Contributing building, 1921, moved 1957)

This large frame building was erected in 1921 along Southern Avenue (now Parkview Avenue) by the State Colored Normal School as a modern school for neighboring black children in which Normal School students could gain teaching experience. As the original purpose of the district was to train teachers for the state's black public schools, the survival of the Practice School is an important symbol of the school's educational objective. The Craftsman Bungalow style building displays a gable-front form with a smaller engaged gable-front roof sheltering the front corner porch, which half projects from and half recedes into the body of the building. Simple wood posts and a square-in-section balustrade define the porch. While the front of the building is blind except for the door, large groups of five or six, six-over-six sash windows punctuate the side elevations (two groups per side) to permit adequate natural light inside. Auxiliary doors are located on each side, in the center on the south and towards the rear on the north. The building was erected with the assistance of the Rosenwald Fund, which had been established by Julius Rosenwald, the chief executive of Sears, Roebuck and Company, to improve the educational facilities for blacks throughout the South; it was one of the few such practice schools erected by the fund in North Carolina. It continued as a practice school until the 1940s and in 1957 it was moved from Parkview Avenue to its present site, about 1,300 feet south. The interior was then renovated with modern classrooms and offices along a central Today it now houses some R. O. T. C. operations. The Practice School meets Criteria Consideration B because its historic use was integral to the district's purpose of training teachers for the black public schools in eastern North Carolina. Its move in 1957 was largely undertaken to place the

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section	number	7	Page	8
SECTION	HUHHDEL	Parker Statement of the Parker	I auc	

Elizabeth City State Teachers College Historic District Pasquotank County, NC

building in closer proximity to the emerging center of the campus at the southern end of the quadrangle (A) (Exhibit E) At is original location, the Practice School was separated from the rest of the campus by the Principal's House (1). It remains on property that was part of the original campus in 1912. In 1971 it was named for Lucille McClendon, a veteran instructor and the advisor of teachers in the primary grades from 1932 until 1947. In 1981 the name was transferred to a new childhood education building southwest of the district.

11. Williams Hall (Noncontributing building, 1947, architect J. Allen Maxwell of Goldsboro)

Williams Hall is one of the most prominent and architecturally impressive buildings on campus. Located at the southern end of the campus quadrangle, the handsome six-to-one common bond brick building is the focus of views both within and into the quadrangle. Erected as a combined fine arts and physical education facility, it was named for Sidney David Williams (1892-1974), who served as the school's fourth president from 1946 until 1958. Williams Hall consists of a large two-story eleven-bay building flanked on each end by one-and-a-half-story four-bay wings. Each end elevation is marked by a parapet gable, with the central and taller parapets being particularly prominent. Brick quoins define the corner of each section and a trio of gable dormers accent each end wing. The focus of the twenty-three-bay facade is a pedimented portico carried by four stone Tuscan columns and two stone Ionic pilasters; the three bays sheltered by the portico are stuccoed. The double-leaf entrance door of replacement aluminum and glass is contained within a Colonial Revival surround consisting of fluted Doric pilasters, classical entablature, and broken pediment. Immediately above there is a tripartite window of six-over-nine sash flanked by four-over-six sash sidelights; this composition is related to that on adjacent Bias Hall. Stone accents, including water table, sills, second story sill course, brick soldier course lintels, and a wooden boxed cornice, complete the building's Colonial Revival finish. On the rear is a large central wing containing a gymnasium.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

Elizabeth City State Teachers College Historic District Pasquotank County, NC

8. Narrative Statement of Significance

Summary

Elizabeth City State Teachers College (known since 1969 as Elizabeth City State University) has been a leader in North Carolina in the training of black teachers for the public schools for more than one hundred years. As the second state-supported black college in North Carolina, and the only one east of Durham, the institution has played a pivotal role in the improvement of public education for blacks in eastern North Carolina, a region which has historically had the state's highest percentage of black residents. Founded in 1891 as the State Colored Normal School at Elizabeth City, the school moved to its present site in 1912. Here it grew and developed, occupying a campus of fashionable Colonial Revival style brick structures. The first buildings were located along Parkview Drive, but as the school grew in the 1920s and 1930s, additional Colonial Revival style buildings were added to the south, loosely defining an expansive quadrangle.

The history of the Elizabeth City State Teachers College Historic District is part of the Elizabeth City associated historic contexts number 4-Railroad Boom: 1881 to 1899, and number 5-Twentieth Century Progress: 1900 to 1942, particularly the subsections in each concerning education. It is also significant as part of the city's black ethnic heritage as discussed in contexts 4 and 5. The institution's Colonial Revival style buildings and the Craftsman Bungalow style Practice School are important examples of educational buildings discussed in property type 3-Institutional Architecture of the Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPDF). The Principal's House follows the double-pile form with Colonial Revival finish, as discussed in property type 1-Residential Architecture of the MPDF. The district's period of significance begins in 1921, the date of the oldest substantially intact buildings on the campus, and ends in 1943 to encompass all of the historic resources that are at least fifty years old and retain integrity. The Practice School, important as an early school building financed by the Rosenwald Fund, is a largely intact example of simple Craftsman style institutional architecture. It meets Criteria Consideration B because it was moved

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

04:		8	Domo	2
Section	number	<u> </u>	Page	

Elizabeth City State Teachers College Historic District Pasquotank County, NC

a short distance on land historically part of the campus and retains its historic relationship to the other campus buildings.

Historical Background

Throughout the late nineteenth century, one of the major handicaps in the development of educational opportunities for blacks in eastern North Carolina was the lack of qualified teachers. Many of the earliest teachers after the Civil War were sent by northern agencies, such as Thomas W. Cardozo, who taught in Elizabeth City in 1869 to 1871 under the auspices of the New York Freedman's Union Commission (Ballou 1966: 1). A large percentage of the teachers during the next twenty years, however, had little training for their vocation. This was a period of tremendous growth in the state's educational system for blacks, and training opportunities for teachers were usually limited to normal institutes of three or four weeks during the summer. Such normal schools were begun in Elizabeth City as early as 1886, and similar institutes were held during the 1880s in Plymouth (sixty miles southwest) and Windsor (forty-five miles west). The success of these institutes underscored the need and interest in continued normal school training for teachers in the black public schools (Ballou, 32-33).

In an effort to meet this need, in 1891 the North Carolina General Assembly created a normal school in Elizabeth City to train teachers for the black public schools of the region. It was the second such institution in the state, and was located in what was then the largest city in eastern North Carolina. This region, with the state's highest percentage of blacks in the general and school populations, had acute needs for trained public school teachers. The new school, chartered as the State Colored Normal School at Elizabeth City, opened its doors on January 4, 1892 in a rented building at 701 South Road Street with two faculty members and an annual budget of \$900. The regional focus of the school was shown by the final first-year enrollment of sixty-nine students from seven area counties (Ballou: 58). The school soon moved to what is now 708 Herrington Road, and there struggled and grew for the rest of the decade.

An important secondary focus of the school was the opportunity to provide the benefit of a high school education to pupils in a region where no county offered a full high school curriculum to blacks. In fact, cases are known of the same individual receiving high school diploma, normal school certificate, and later a college degree from the Elizabeth City institution at different times. The high school department continued during the 1920s, when public high schools were established throughout the region. Elizabeth City did not have a high school for blacks until 1923, when Dunbar High School was built; the college discontinued it's high school in 1931 (Johnson 1980, 35; Harris interview, 1980; Butchko 1989, 164).

By the first years of the twentieth century, the State Colored Normal School was in need of larger, more modern facilities. To meet this need, the State Board of Education began purchasing property south

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 3

Elizabeth City State Teachers College Historic District Pasquotank County, NC

of Elizabeth City for a new campus. The first parcel, five acres acquired in 1903, was the same tract donated in 1896 to the Colored Normal and Industrial Institute, a marginally successful private endeavor intended to train the black youth of Elizabeth City and Pasquotank County. Although this institute ceased operations after its sole building burned ca. 1901, it established the vicinity of the present University campus as a location for black education (Deed Book 27, 220). The purchase in 1905 of an adjacent 18.6-acre tract provided sufficient land on which to begin planning for a new campus (Deed Book 41, 472). The site was located south of the municipal limits of Elizabeth City along Poor House Road, later called Southern Avenue, known as Parkview Avenue since the 1960s. The campus was not taken into the town proper until after 1951 (Sanborn, 1951).

The need for improved facilities was underscored when 274 students from twenty-six counties enrolled for the 1908-1909 school year, a seven-fold increase in seventeen years (Johnson 1980, 27). By 1910, enough money had been secured from the State and the Pasquotank County board of education to begin construction of the first building, now known as Lane Hall (2), which combined classrooms, offices, and chapel. Construction of the second building, Symera Hall (3), began in 1911 and, like Lane Hall, was completed for the 1912-1913 school term (Johnson 1980, 27, 29-30; Ballou 1966, 75; Sanborn, 1914). At the end of the first school year, Principal P. W. Moore reported to his Board of Trustees the impact of the new campus:

After conducting the school twenty-one years in delapidated [sic] wood buildings, on the morning of the 9th of September, 1912, the twenty-second annual Session was begun on our beautiful, well ventilated, modernly finished brick building. The contrast is almost undescribable. The school took on new life, more dignity and self-respect. Everything about the new plan gave inspiration and encouragement on that morning which last[ed] until April 25th, the day on which another very successful session was closed (Ballou 1966, 75).

Both buildings are shown on the March 1914 Sanborn map (Exhibit B), Lane Hall labeled as "Recitation Hall" and "Chapel," and Symera Hall labeled as "Dormitory." Other campus buildings in 1914 included a heating plant to the rear of Lane Hall, to which it was attached between 1923 and 1931; and four small frame buildings: a wood shed, laundry room, and privy south of the dormitory, and an unspecified building west of the heating plant. Only the laundry was still standing in 1923, and it was replaced by 1931 (Sanborn maps 1914, 1923, 1931, attached as Exhibits B, C, and D).

The growth and development of the new campus was guided by Peter W. Moore (1859-1934). He had been appointed the school's first Principal in 1891 and served in that capacity until his retirement in 1928. Raised on a farm in Sampson County, Moore graduated from Shaw University in Raleigh in 1887 and spent the next four years as vice-principal of a small and short-lived State Normal School at Plymouth (The Daily Advance, April 16, 1934). The early success of the State Colored Normal School in Elizabeth City

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section	number	8	Page	4

Elizabeth City State Teachers College Historic District Pasquotank County, NC

was due largely to the perseverance and guidance of Moore, who worked tirelessly to develop the faculty, facilities, and curriculum that he thought best for the school. In fact, in 1903 a local newspaper editor hailed P. W. Moore as the "Booker T. Washington of North Carolina" (The North Carolinian, July 17, 1903). Moore worked under "the premise that well-trained individuals became better citizens," believing that "good citizens were knowledgeable, refined, cultured, worthy of respect, and understanding" (Johnson 1980, 8-13, 15).

At the new campus, the school was able to broaden and expand programs begun at the Herrington Road location. One of the first physical additions was the construction in 1921-1923 of the Practice School (10) (Exhibit C). The building was erected through the auspices of the Rosenwald Fund, named for its benefactor, Julius Rosenwald, the chief executive of Sears, Roebuck and Company. The fund encouraged the improvement of educational facilities for blacks throughout the South, and the Practice School, known in the state records as the "Model Practice" school, was one of the few such practice schools erected by the fund in North Carolina (Hanchett 1988, 439). The purpose of the practice school was to enable students to observe, and to put into use, modern principles of classroom conduct and teaching methods. The practice school was attended by area children, although it was not part of the public school system. It apparently did not achieve that status until 1928, when a new brick Practice School (demolished ca. 1988) was erected as a joint venture of the Normal School and the city board of education on a site across Parkview Drive, outside of the bounds of this historic district. The 1921-1923 practice school continued as a teaching laboratory until the 1940s (Johnson 1980, 27, 33-34).

Another endeavor which prospered at the new campus was the school farm and manual training program. Moore had attempted a similar program in 1903, believing that such training was important in helping black males achieve a lucrative livelihood. Although beneficial, the program had to be dropped after only one year because of the lack of funds (Johnson 1980, 16). However, at the new campus, sufficient land and increased financial support enabled the program to be reinstated. The large campus provided suitable fields for the tending of vegetables and raising cows and hogs, and the products of the farm greatly reduced the expenditures of the dining hall. The school farm program was particularly beneficial during the Depression, when many students paid their fees by working on the farm. The high number of students from rural areas provided a steady supply of hands accustomed to farm labor (Johnson 1980, 32-33, 37, 52-55, 67-69). By 1918 a two-story brick Industrial Training Building was erected at what is now the southwest corner of the quadrangle, between Butler (9) and Williams (11) halls. This structure provided space for farm and manual training programs; it was demolished in the 1970s. The operation of the campus laundry (6) provided a similar work opportunity to women students (Sanborn map, 1956; Ballou discussion, 1992; Johnson 1980, 230).

Other buildings were added to the campus as the State Colored Normal School matured and expanded during the 1920s (Exhibits C and D). The Principal's House (1), a two-story frame Colonial Revival style residence, was built in 1921-1923 adjacent to the Practice School. Moore Hall (4) was built as a combined administration, classroom, and auditorium building between 1921 and 1923. The one-story brick Colonial

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number ___8 Page __5

Elizabeth City State Teachers College Historic District Pasquotank County, NC

Revival style structure was rededicated in honor of P. W. Moore in 1927. Butler Hall (9), erected ca. 1925 as the first dormitory specifically for men, is a three-and-a-half story brick Colonial Revival style structure with parapet gable roof and well-articulated gabled dormers. This was the first building erected away from what is now Parkview Drive, on the western edge of what would eventually emerge as a campus quadrangle. The 1923 Sanborn map (Exhibit C) also shows a water tower sixty feet tall south of Moore Hall; it was removed in the early 1950s (Sanborn map 1923, 1931, 1952, 1955).

Enrollment figures during the 1910s and 1920s are incomplete. By the time of Principal Moore's retirement in 1928, the student body and faculty numbered 355 and fifteen, respectively; the graduating class consisted of ninety students (Overman and Shannonhouse 1975, 115; Johnson 1980, 44).

The new administrator of the State Colored Normal School was John Henry Bias (d. 1938), and the title was changed from Principal to President. Born in Missouri and educated at Lincoln University, the University of Chicago, and Columbia University, Bias taught science and mathematics at the State Normal School in 1901-1902 and 1904-1905, and from 1921 until 1928 he served as vice-president under P. W. Moore. Between 1905 and 1921 he was head of the science department at Shaw University for a ten year period and organized the state's first rural high school for blacks c. 1914 at Method in Wake County (The Daily Advance, July 17, 1939; Johnson 1908, 47). Bias shepherded the Elizabeth City thschool through the troubled days of the Depression, expanding the farm and laundry program out of necessity to both his students and the dining room (Johnson 1980, 52-53). He once remarked that "if we expected our students to pay all their expenses in cash, we'd close up in two months" (The Daily Advance, July 17, 1939).

His administration oversaw a far-reaching academic and physical improvement of the school. After Bias's repeated requests to the General Assembly for elevation of the school to four-year status, a four-year program began in the 1937-1938 school year leading to a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education. This was the culmination of a long dream of the school's supporters, and led to a doubling of the number of courses offered. Accordingly, the name of the institution was changed in 1939 to Elizabeth City State Teachers College (Johnson 1980, 58-60; The Daily Advance, July 17, 1939).

The enhanced stature of the college was reflected by the erection of several important structures between 1937 and 1939. The construction of the former G. R. Little Library (5), the school's first free-standing library building, indicated the academic prestige that a degree-granting institution had over a normal school. The library had previously been housed in Moore Hall. During the same two years, a three-story women's dormitory, later named Bias Hall (8), was erected; the men's dormitory, Butler Hall (9), was doubled in size; and a classroom annex was added to the rear of Moore Hall (4). Much of the costs of these buildings were paid by the Public Works Administration. Money was also alloted for buying land adjoining the campus, erecting farm buildings, improving the grounds, and building driveways and walks (Johnson 1980, 55-58; The Daily Advance, May 15, 1939; The Daily Advance, July 17, 1939). It was during Bias's term that the campus assumed the appearance largely conveyed by the historic district.

Less than two months after the Elizabeth City State Teachers College granted twenty-six Bachelor of Science degrees to its first graduating class as a college on May 19, 1939, death claimed President Bias on

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section	number	8	Page	6
Section	number		raue	

Elizabeth City State Teachers College Historic District Pasquotank County, NC

July 15, 1939 (Johnson 1980, 60, 65). His successor as president was Harold Leonard Trigg, who for the past eleven years had been the state inspector of black high schools (Johnson 1980, 66, 71). Although his six-year administration was met with financial and personnel restrictions due to World War II, the college made revisions in curriculum development and began planning for the post-war years. The State assured the board of trustees that needed building construction would receive immediate consideration as soon as wartime restrictions were lifted. With this is mind, the college proceeded to have plans drawn by architect J. Allen Maxwell, Jr., of Goldsboro, North Carolina, for the large building now known as Williams Hall (Johnson 1980, 73, 86-87).

Since 1942, the Elizabeth City State Teachers College has continued to expand its presence and role in higher education in eastern North Carolina. During a five-year building program begun in 1947, ten buildings were added to the campus. These included, in addition to Williams Hall (11), a new science building (Lester Hall), infirmary (Cardwell-Hoffler Health Center), two female dormitories (Cale and Doles halls), four cottages for faculty, and a football stadium (Johnson 1980, 86-87, 114, 141, 146-147). The intended sale of the college's adjacent farm in 1951 did not go through, saving for future growth an invaluable tract of land south and southwest of the historic campus (Johnson 1980, 148-149). It was in that general direction that growth went afterwards, eventually leading to today's campus of more than fifty major buildings (Exhibit E).

A vocational-technical curriculum was started at Elizabeth City State Teachers College in 1957, but was discontinued in 1964 after the establishment in 1960 of the College of the Albemarle, a regional vocational college. Prior to 1959, all students majored in education, but between that year and 1963, the curriculum was expanded to include twelve non-education majors. Consequently, in 1963 the name of the college was changed to Elizabeth City State College, although it remained predominantly a teacher-training institution. Enrollment in 1965-1966 was 1,013, the first enrollment above 1,000 (ECSU Catalog, p. 8). Since elevation to university status in 1969, Elizabeth City State University has continued to grow as eastern North Carolina's only historically-black institution of higher education. Enrollment in 1991-1992, the year the school celebrated its centennial, was 1,774.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 9 Page 1

Elizabeth City State Teachers College Historic District Pasquotank County, NC

9. Major Bibliographic Sources

- Ballou, Leonard R. <u>Pasquotank Pedagogues and Politicians: EarlyEducational Struggles</u>. Elizabeth City, North Carolina: Elizabeth City State University, 1966.
- Ballou, Leonard R., Official archivist and historian of Elizabeth City State University. Interview by Tom Butchko, May 5, 1992.
- Brown, Charlotte V., "The Day of the Great Cities: The Professionalism of Building, 1900-1945" in Bishir, Catherine W., Charlotte V. Brown, Carl R. Lounsbury, and Ernest H. Wood III.

 Architects and Builders in North Carolina: A History in the Practice of Building. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 1990. Telephone conversation with author on May 12, 1992.
- Butchko, Thomas R. On The Shores Of The Pasquotank: The Architectural Heritage of Elizabeth City and Pasquotank County, North Carolina. Elizabeth City: The Museum of the Albemarle, 1989.
- Elizabeth City State University. Catalog '74-'75. Elizabeth City, NC: Elizabeth City State University, 1974.
- Hanchett, Thomas W. "The Rosenwald Schools and Black Education in North Carolina," <u>The North Carolina Historical Review</u>. Raleigh: North Carolina Division of Archives and History, Volume LXV, Number 4, October 1988.
- Harris, Cornelia Paxton (Mrs. N. S.) Harris. Interview by Tom Butchko during Inventory of Historic Architecture of Edenton, North Carolina, 1980. Notes on file in Survey and Planning Branch, North Carolina Division of Archives and History.
- Johnson, Evelyn Adelaide. <u>History of Elizabeth City State</u> <u>University: A Story of Survivial</u>. New York: Vantage Press, 1980.
- Overman, Lou N. and Edna M. Shannonhouse, eds. <u>Year Book, Pasquotank Historical Society, Volume 3</u>. Baltimore: Gateway Press, Inc., 1975.
- Sanborn Map Company. "Elizabeth City, North Carolina." New York: The Sanborn Map Company, 1914, 1923, 1931, 1935, 1952, 1956, 1959.
- Stephens, Paul, architect of New Bern, grandson of Burett H. Stephens. Letter to author with plans and photographs. November 1991.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section	number	9	Page	2
Section	HUHHDE		raye	

Elizabeth City State Teachers College Historic District Pasquotank County, NC

The Daily Advance (Elizabeth City). "Dr. W. P. Moore, President Emeritus of State Normal School, Dies at the Age of 74." April 16, 1934; "Dormitory and Library Dedicated." May 15, 1939; "School Auditorium Seating 1,000 Voted by County Commissioners; Cost Will Be Only \$3,000 More." May 15, 1939; "Obsequies For Bias Set For Wednesday Afternoon At 2:30." July 17, 1939.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number ____10 Page ___1

Elizabeth City State Teachers College Historic District Pasquotank County, NC

10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries of the Elizabeth City State Teachers College Historic District are shown on Exhibit A.

Boundary Justification

The boundaries of the Elizabeth City State Teachers College Historic District were drawn to include the campus's two areas of historic development and the central quadrangle, as well as the 1921 Practice School, which was moved from its original location on Parkview Drive to a nearby site immediately east of the quadrangle.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section	number	10	Page	2
Section	number		Page	

Elizabeth City State Teachers College Historic District Pasquotank County, North Carolina

A photocopy of the USGS map on which the nomination is plotted is included. The original, on which several nominations are plotted, has been submitted with the multiple documentations nomination, Historic and Architectural Resources of Elizabeth City, North Carolina, 1793-1943.

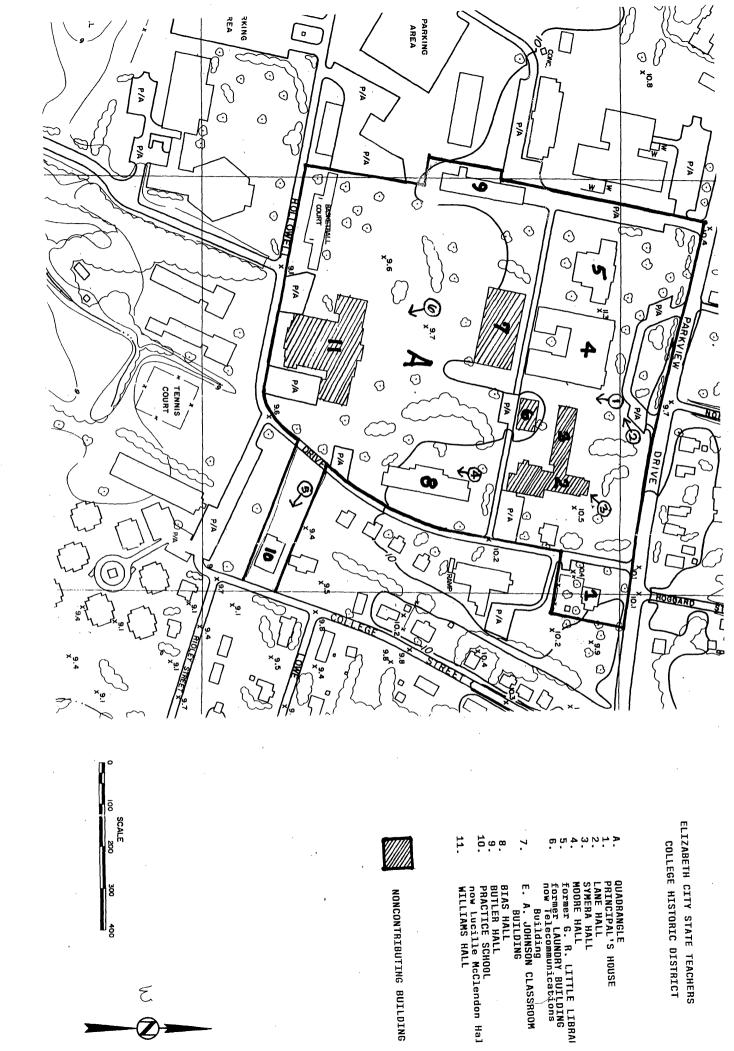
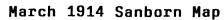
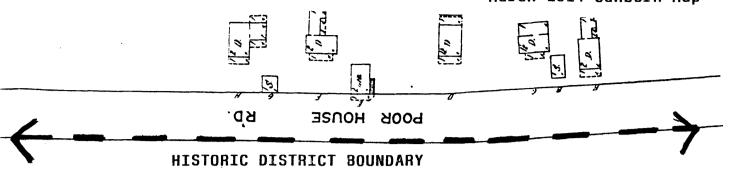


EXHIBIT B





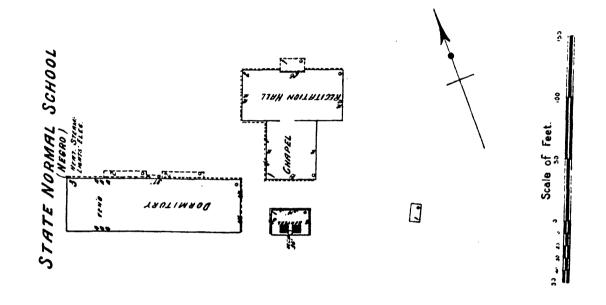


EXHIBIT **©**March 1923 Sanborn Map

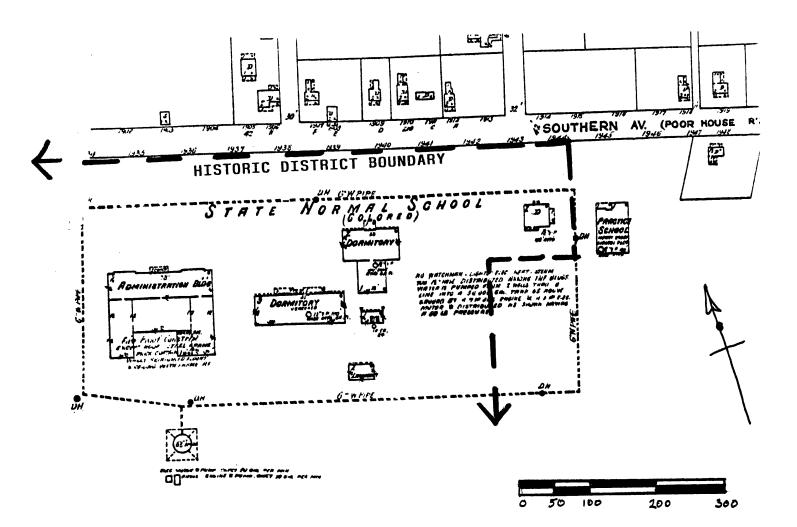
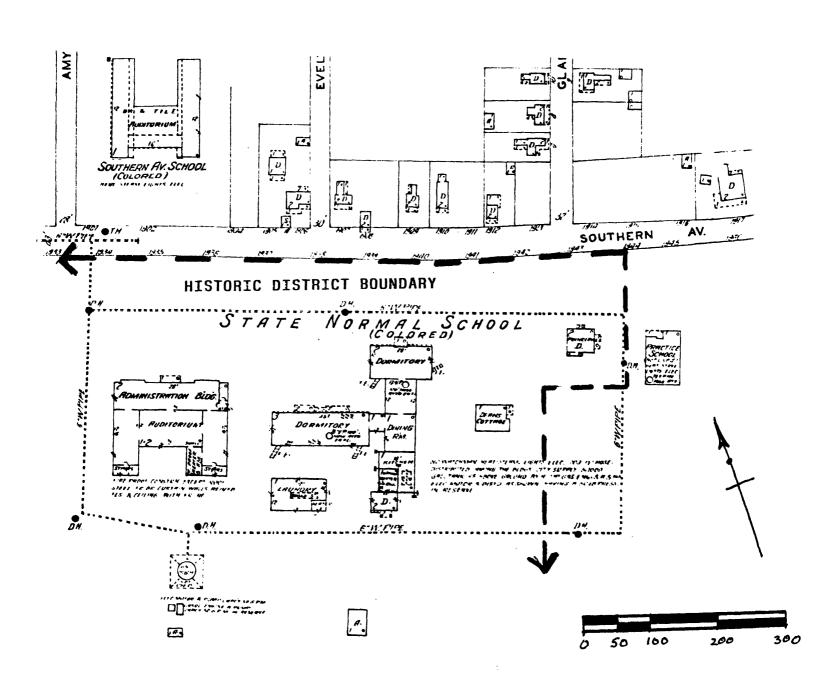


EXHIBIT D

January 1931 Sanborn Map



Map of ECSU campus

